

By Senator Oelrich

14-1359-07

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to motor vehicle license  
3           plates; amending s. 320.061, F.S.; conforming  
4           provisions; creating s. 320.0615, F.S.;  
5           prohibiting certain alteration of license  
6           plates to make them unreadable to automated  
7           traffic cameras; providing an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11           Section 1. Section 320.061, Florida Statutes, is  
12 amended to read:

13           320.061 Unlawful to alter motor vehicle registration  
14 certificates, license plates, mobile home stickers, or  
15 validation stickers; penalty.--~~A No person may not shall~~ alter  
16 the original appearance of any registration license plate,  
17 mobile home sticker, validation sticker, or vehicle  
18 registration certificate issued for and assigned to any motor  
19 vehicle or mobile home, whether by mutilation, alteration,  
20 defacement, or change of color or in any other manner. Except  
21 as provided in s. 320.0615, a Any person who violates the  
22 provisions of this section commits ~~is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor  
23 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or  
24 s. 775.083.

25           Section 2. Section 320.0615, Florida Statutes, is  
26 created to read:

27           320.0615 Motor vehicle license plates; alteration  
28 affecting readability by automated traffic cameras; penalty.--

29           (1) A driver may not alter a motor vehicle license  
30 plate with a spray or other coating, covering, film,  
31 protective material, or device that distorts angular

1 visibility or detectability; that alters, obscures, or  
2 otherwise interferes with the readability of the letters or  
3 numbers on the plate, the color of the plate, or another  
4 original design feature of the plate; or that makes the plate  
5 unreadable in photographs taken by automated traffic cameras  
6 or electronic photo radar devices.

7 (2) Enforcement of this section by state or local law  
8 enforcement agencies must be accomplished only as a secondary  
9 action when a driver of a motor vehicle has been detained for  
10 a suspected violation of another section of chapter 216, this  
11 chapter, or chapter 322.

12 (3) Notwithstanding s. 320.061, a violation of this  
13 section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a  
14 moving violation as provided in chapter 318.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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18 SENATE SUMMARY

19 Prohibits the use of films, coatings, or devices that  
20 obscure, distort, or otherwise interfere with the  
21 readability of a license plate or photograph of a license  
22 plate.  
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